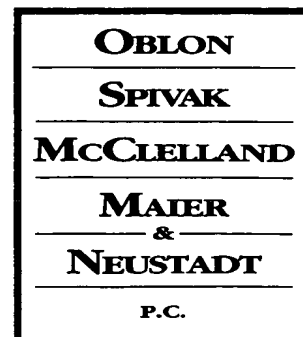




Docket No.: 193378US0X



ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/610,343  
Applicants: Mohamed BOUZEKRI  
Filing Date: July 3, 2000  
For: STEEL SHEET WITH LOW ALUMINUM  
CONTENT FOR CONTAINERS  
Group Art Unit: 1742  
Examiner: S. IP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

NORMAN F. OBLON  
(703) 413-3000  
NOBLON@OBLON.COM

KIRSTEN A. GRÜNEBERG, PH.D.  
REGISTERED PATENT AGENT  
(703) 413-3000  
KGRUNEBERG@OBLON.COM

SIR:


Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

  
Norman F. Oblon  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 24,618



**22850**

(703) 413-3000 (phone)  
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

Kirsten A. Grueneberg, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 47,297

DOCKET NO.: 1993378US0X



#59  
7/6/01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF:  
Mohamed BOUZEKRI

:

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1742

SERIAL NO.: 09/610,343

:

FILED: July 3, 2000

: EXAMINER: S. IP

FOR: STEEL SHEET WITH LOW ALUMINUM CONTENT FOR CONTAINERS

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated June 19, 2001, Applicants elect, with  
traverse, Group II, Claims 9-12.

RECEIVED  
JUN 28 2001  
TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

**REMARKS**

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

Group I: Claims 1-8, drawn to a process for manufacturing a steel strip; and

Group II: Claims 9-12, drawn to a steel sheet.

Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II, Claims 9-12.

Restriction is only proper if the claims of the restricted groups are either independent or patentably distinct. The burden of proof is on the Office to provide reasons and/or examples to support any conclusion with regard to patentable distinctness. MPEP §803.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that no adequate reasons and/or examples have been provided to support a conclusion of patentable